## RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

## By B. Johnson

## **Establishing a Major League Soccer Stadium Working Group.**

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis is home to four major sports franchises, the Twins, Vikings, Timberwolves, and Lynx whose activities, and those of their fans, provide important support for local, state, and regional economies, assets that directly contribute to development and future investment in the community, and sources of civic pride providing entertainment and enjoyment for individuals and families throughout the State of Minnesota; and

Whereas, a Major League Soccer franchise is proposed to be located in the City of Minneapolis, which further expands upon the existing benefits and investments realized from other sports franchises, and the City of Minneapolis is the natural choice for a Major League Soccer franchise; and

Whereas, soccer is the fastest-growing sport in the world, and having a major soccer franchise located in Minneapolis would bring international appeal to the most culturally diverse and dynamic community in Minnesota;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That a Major League Soccer (MLS) Stadium Working Group is hereby established to undertake a needs analysis that would include, but not be limited, to the following factors:

- The need or desirability for improved public infrastructure to support an MLS Stadium and potential future development in the Farmers Market area, including consideration of the impact of a stadium and related development on City-owned facilities and infrastructure needs and plans connected to the potential light rail station to be located along Royalston Avenue;
- 2) The potential impact of an MLS Stadium and potential future development on the City's tax capacity, including property and sales taxes, and impacts on other publicly-owned facilities;
- The identification of sites within the Farmers Market area for potential future development and a strategy for working cooperatively with Hennepin County and other stakeholders on financing infrastructure and related issues;
- 4) Analysis of soil and geo-technical data from the Farmers Market site;
- 5) Determination of a legislative strategy, if any, to support an MLS Stadium;
- 6) The identification of public benefits that could be obtained from the development of an MLS Stadium in the City of Minneapolis; and
- 7) Any other issues identified by the Working Group.

Be It Further Resolved that the membership of the MLS Stadium Working Group shall consist of the following individuals:

- 1) Mayor Betsy Hodges, or her designee;
- 2) Council President Barbara A. Johnson;
- 3) Council Member Jacob Frey;

- 4) Council Member Blong Yang;
- 5) Council Member Lisa Bender;
- 6) Council Member John Quincy;
- 7) City Attorney Susan Segal;
- 8) Chief Finance Officer Kevin Carpenter;
- 9) Public Works Director Steve Kotke;
- 10) Intergovernmental Relations Director Gene Ranieri;
- 11) Community Planning & Economic Development Deputy Director Chuck Lutz; and
- 12) Economic Development Director David Frank.

Be It Further Resolved that the MLS Working Group is hereby directed to complete its work and to present its findings, analysis, and recommendations in a public report submitted to the Committee of the Whole in September 2015, with a final report to the full City Council by no later than its final regular meeting in its 2015 Session.